

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for supporting a combination of programs using a computer, comprising the steps of:

making said computer read from a storage unit kinds of screens in a source of each work and in a destination of said work and setting of a display flow of said screens in work flow definition information indicating a flow among works, and store screen flow definition information into said storage unit in accordance with said read setting;

in accordance with said screen flow definition information and work-to-service correspondence definition information stored in said storage unit in advance and indicating correspondence of each work to a program providing each service used in said work, creating an input/output screen for executing a program providing said service corresponding to each work; and

outputting an execution result of said program providing said service using said input/output screen in accordance with said screen flow definition information and said work-to-service correspondence definition information.

2. A program development support method, comprising the steps of:

setting kinds of screens in a source of each work and in a destination of said work and a display flow of said screens in work flow definition

information indicating a flow among works, to thereby create screen flow definition information;

in accordance with said screen flow definition information and work-to-service correspondence definition information indicating correspondence of each work to each service component, creating an input/output screen for executing said service component corresponding to each work; and

calling said service component and outputting an execution result thereof using said input/output screen in an order following said screen flow definition information and in accordance with said work-to-service correspondence definition information.

3. A program development support method according to Claim 2, processing for creating said screen flow definition information including the steps of:

reading each line of said work flow definition information, and adding each line to said screen flow definition information for each source work, said added line having an input screen of a source work, said source work and an output screen of said source work correspondingly to a source screen, a work and a destination screen respectively;

adding a line having an output screen of a source work and a branch selection screen as said source screen and said destination screen respectively and a line having a branch selection screen and an

input screen of said destination work as said source screen and said destination screen when a source work in a next line of said work flow definition information is the same as that in said current line; and

adding a line having an output screen of a source work and an input screen of a destination screen as said source screen and said destination screen to thereby create said screen flow definition information when said source work in said next line of said work flow definition information is not the same as that in said current line.

4. A program development support method according to Claim 2, processing for creating said input/output screen including the steps of:

reading each line of said screen flow definition information;

when said source screen is an input screen, adding names of input data and text fields thereof to said input screen in accordance with said work-to-service correspondence definition information;

when there are a plurality of corresponding service components, adding a combo box and a button to said screen, said combo box being provided for selecting a service component name, said button being provided for executing a request;

when said source screen is a branch selection screen, adding buttons to said screen, said buttons being provided for moving to said destination screen;

and

when said destination screen is an output screen, adding names of output data and text fields thereof to said output screen, adding text fields for displaying performance evaluation results or reliability evaluation results to said screen, and adding a button to said screen for moving to a next screen, in accordance with said work-to-service correspondence definition information.

5. A program development support method according to Claim 2, processing for verifying a combination of said service components including the steps of:

allowing a user to transmit a request including input data and a service name to a screen flow control portion through an input screen;

making said screen flow control portion read a line from said screen flow definition information correspondingly to said input screen from which said request is transmitted, judge whether there is a work in said line or not, and call a service calling portion when there is a work;

receiving said request, making said service calling portion call a service component, and storing an execution result of said service component into a shared data storage portion; and

making said screen flow control portion call a destination screen from said screen flow definition

information, embed information including said execution result into said destination screen, and display said destination screen to said user.

6. A program development support method according to Claim 2, wherein:

said service component is called through a network.

7. A program development support apparatus for supporting a user to verify a combination of service components used to execute works by use of a dialogue type system through a screen, comprising:

means for receiving work flow definition information indicating a flow among works, and creating screen flow definition information;

means for receiving said screen flow definition information and work-to-service correspondence definition information indicating correspondence of said works to said service components, and creating an input/output screen for executing a service component corresponding to each work; and

means for verifying a combination of said service components by use of said work-to-service correspondence definition information, said created screen flow definition information and said input/output screen.

8. A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for executing a method for supporting a user to

select a program for providing a service, comprising the steps of:

reading from a storage unit kinds of screens in a source of each work and in a destination of said work and setting of a display flow of said screens in work flow definition information indicating a flow among works, and creating screen flow definition information in accordance with said read kinds of screens and said read setting of said display flow of said screens;

in accordance with said screen flow definition information and work-to-service correspondence definition information stored in said storage unit in advance and indicating correspondence of each work to a program providing a service used in said work, creating an input/output screen to be used for executing said program providing said service corresponding to each work; and

outputting an execution result of said program providing said service using said input/output screen in accordance with said screen flow definition information and said work-to-service correspondence definition information.